

Message Text

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17

ACTION CU-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 USIA-15 /032 W

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R 011123Z MAR 76

FM AMCONSUL Leningrad

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2029

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

UNCLAS Leningrad 0328

CU/EE PASS TO IREX NEW YORK

EO 11652N/A

TAGS: OEXC UR

SUBJ: Leningrad IREX GRANTEES

1. WE ARE SERIOUSLY CONCERNED ABOUT THE DEVELOPING PATTERN OF LAST MINUTE POSTPONEMENTS AND CANCELLATION OF EXCURSIONS.

2. OUR EXCURSION TO PSKOV, PLANNED FOR NOVEMBER, WAS DELAYED THREE TIMES, THEN CANCELLED. THE PRIBALTIC TRIP WAS CANCELLED IN EARLY DECEMBER.

3. Leningrad P&C INDICATED CONCERN OVER OUR PROBLEM IN JANUARY MEETING WITH LGU PRORECTOR.

4. SINCE JANUARY AN EXCURSION TO THE GOLDEN RING HAS BEEN PUT OFF TWICE. IN THE FIRST CASE, THE EXCUSE WAS THAT AN INSUFFICIENT NUMBER OF STAZHERY HAD SIGNED UP. THE SECOND INSTANCE WAS CONNECTION WITH GENERAL TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS ENFORCED BECAUSE OF PARTY CONGRESS. IN BOTH CASES, THE LAST-MINUTE REJECTIONS ALLEGEDLY ORIGINATED FROM SPUTNIK, THOUGH THEY WERE COMMUNICATED BY INOTDEL.

5. WANTED TO ALERT YOU TO THIS PROBLEM. WILL KEEP YOU ADVISED AND WILL RECOMMEND ACTION BY IREX WHEN LOCAL RESOURCES EXHAUSTED. Leningrad P&C PLANNING REPRESENTATIONS TO PRORECTOR SPESHNEV AND MOSCOW P&C TO SPUTNIK. SIGNED STAROSTA, Leningrad GROUP.

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NEUBERT

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